



3 CHEMISTS SHARE NOBEL FOR PIONEERING CLICK CHEMISTRY

Carolyn Bertozzi and Barry Sharpless of US and Morten Meldal of Denmark discovered ways to attach molecules

SCIENCE OF SNAPPING MOLECULES TOGETHER

Click chemistry involves snapping molecules together with the help of copper ions. The Nobel Committee likened it to building very advanced houses with Lego bricks. "It's the same with this chemistry, although at the very, very, molecular level," it explained. Snapping molecules together can create materials that are tailored to specific purposes | P10

HELPED ADVANCE CANCER TREATMENT

Click chemistry can also be used to design better medicines, including ones that target diseases like cancer more precisely. While Meldal and Sharpless discovered chemical buckles that could snap the molecules together, Bertozzi found ways to make click chemistry work safely inside living organisms

Second

NOBEL CHEMISTRY PRIZE FOR BARRY SHARPLESS

Will talk to J&K people, not Pak: Shah

Says Valley is transitioning from a terror hotspot to a tourist hotspot; assures Assembly elections after roll revision

FAYAZ WANI @Srinagar

IN his first public rally in Kashmir after Article 370 was hollowed out, Union home minister Amit Shah on Wednesday ruled out talks with Pakistan for now while saying the Valley was transitioning from a terrorist hotspot to a tourist hotspot. He asked security forces to continue their operations to wipe out terror in J&K.

Shah assured that J&K Assembly elections would be held with full transparency after the electoral roll revision is over.

"Some people say we should talk to Pakistan. Why should we? We will not talk. We will talk to the people of Baramulla,

we will talk to the people of Kashmir," Shah said while addressing a well-attended rally in Baramulla.

Referring to militancy in J&K, he said, "The Modi government does not tolerate terrorism and wants to wipe it out. We want to make J&K the most peaceful place in the country."

Asserting that terrorism has never benefited anyone, Shah said, "42,000 people were killed in terrorism in J&K since 1990. Three families (referring to Abdullahs, Muftis and Gandhis) who ruled J&K are responsible for it. Now terrorism is slowly coming to an end."

Citing data to establish how Kashmir is turning into a tour-



Union Home Minister Amit Shah with J&K Lt Governor Manoj Sinha (L), during a public rally at the Shiwok Ali Stadium in Baramulla district on Wednesday | P11

Stops speech midway after Azaan call from mosque

Shah stopped his speech midway after an Azaan call from a nearby mosque. He resumed after Azaan was over. On elections, Shah said, "Assembly polls in J&K will be conducted with full transparency once the Election Commission completes the exercise of publishing the revised electoral rolls. And your own elected representatives will govern here." The revision of electoral rolls is expected to be over by November 25

ist hotspot, he said, "In the past, the annual tourist footfall in Kashmir was about 6 lakh, but till October this year, 22 lakh tourists have visited the Valley. It is an all-time high."

Taking a dig at the Abdullahs, Muftis and Gandhis, he said, "democracy was confined in J&K to three families, 87 MLAs and 6 MPs. After August 5, 2019, Modi has taken democracy to the grassroots level in all villages."

Keeping up his attack, he said, "I want to tell Farooq saheb and Mehbooba, you gave stones and guns to Kashmiri youth; Modi instead gave them laptops and mobiles by bringing industries here."



TRS chief K Chandrashekar Rao reads a resolution of the party's general body to change its name to Bharat Rashtra Samithi, in Hyderabad on Wednesday | P11

Telangana off, now call it Bharat Rashtra Samithi

V V BALAKRISHNA @Hyderabad

THE ruling Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) in Telangana on Wednesday began to shake off its regional image by rechristening itself as the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS).

The TRS general body that met in the morning, adopted a resolution to convert itself into a national party. Its constitution was amended accordingly.

Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) read out the resolution at 1.19 pm, the most auspicious time of the day as per the almanac, in the presence of JD(S) leader and former Karnataka chief minister H D Kumaraswamy and Tamil Nadu's Viduthala Chiruthaigal Katchi leader Thol Thirumavalavan. The party will submit a copy of the

resolution to the Election Commission of India shortly.

The BRS will initially be launched in Maharashtra with its affiliated farmer association setting up its units there.

KCR had announced his national foray six months ago to counter the lopsided policies of the BJP government at the Centre. He intends to showcase his Telangana model as an alternative ahead of the 2024 polls.

It is not clear yet whether the BRS would want to forge a poll pact with the Congress. Both the BJP and the Congress are its main rivals in Telangana. Also, Assembly polls in Telangana are due next year.

"Today's meeting was an internal one. Leaders from various other parties will be invited to an event to launch the party," KCR told the gathering.

RSS chief calls for entrepreneurial skill development

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @Mumbai

RASHTRIYA Swayamsevak Sangh chief Mohan Bhagwat on Wednesday said people should develop entrepreneurial skills rather than depending on government jobs.

"For a country as populous as Bharat, it is a natural expectation that economic and development policy making should be employment-oriented. But employment does not mean simply jobs, this prudence should expand in our society," said Bhagwat in his annual Dushera address in Nagpur.

"Enterprise-oriented actions have to be encouraged. Setting up of decentralised employment training programmes in every district, job opportunities in home districts, development programmes in villages as also education, health, ease of travel — these are common expectations from the government."

He also pointed out that population control and religion-based population balance are important subjects that can no longer be ignored. "The population policy should be applicable

for all. Public awareness campaigns will be required for creating a mindset of total observance of this policy. Only then rules on population control will yield results," he added.

Growing population can also be an asset, Bhagwat said. "We are at the stage of demographic dividend and this should work



Empowering women

Bhagwat also laid emphasis on women's empowerment and said society cannot progress without women. He also said the concept of Hindu Rashtra is now being taken seriously

in our favour. China managed to control the population by implementing strict policies but now its population is old. Realising that they are now encouraging a two-child policy," he said.

He said scare-mongering was being done that there was a danger to minorities, but asserted that this is neither the nature of the Sangh nor of Hindus. The Sangh, he asserted, resolves to stand on the side of brotherhood, amity and peace.

"There should be no recurrence of Udaipur and Amravati incidents (where a tailor and a pharmacist were killed

after they supported suspended BJP spokesperson Nupur Sharma), Bhagwat said, adding that a particular community as a whole should not be taken as the root cause for it.

Confident of winning top post: Kharge

RAMAKRISHNA BADESHI @Kolkatauragi

Veteran Congress leader Mallikarjun Kharge said on Wednesday that he is confident of winning the election to the post of AICC president.

Speaking to reporters before leaving to Mysuru where he will join Congress president Sonia Gandhi and party leader Rahul Gandhi in the party's on-

going Bharat Jodo Yatra, Kharge said many state PCC unit leaders and senior party leaders were present when he filed his nomination papers which is an indication that there is an overwhelming support for his candidature.

Kharge also ruled out the possibility of his return to state politics as a chief ministerial candidate by saying, "I am a sincere worker of Congress,

which made me a Union minister twice and also leader of opposition in the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha. Now, as many leaders are backing me for the post of AICC president, what more can I expect", he said.

He also declined to comment on rumours that his supporters were urging his rival for the Congress chief's post, Shashi Tharoor, to withdraw his papers. P4



TRUMPET OF TRADITION

Elephant Abhimanyu carries the 750-kg golden howdah at the Jambhu Savi during Dasara celebrations at Mysuru Palace on Wednesday | UDAYASHANKAR S

Cybercrime: CBI arrests 16 in K'taka

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

In a major crackdown on transnational organised cyber crime gangs in India, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in coordination with state police forces, conducted searches at 115 locations across the country. In Karnataka, 12 places were searched and 16 people have been arrested.

The exercise, named 'Operation Chakra', was launched on Tuesday in Karnataka, Delhi, Punjab, Rajasthan, Assam, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh and Haryana, with support from police forces of these states and Union Territories. The CBI also coordinated with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) of the US, Interpol, Canadian Police, Australian Police and other private corporations for the operation.

In Bengaluru, the Central Crime Branch (CCB) sleuths carried out the operation in connection with 15 cases registered in various CEN police stations.

Joint Commissioner of Police (Crime) Raman Gupta said it was a well-coordinated exercise with the CBI. He said, "The nature of crimes include allurement of jobs, OTP frauds, cheating people by creating fake profiles on social media, cheating and harassing people by offering loans through Chinese applications and non-banking financial companies." P3

Unique mobile, TV ban near Belagavi village for social bonding

TUSHAR A MAJUMKAR & C A ITNALMATH @Belagavi

THE increasing use of smartphones and other gadgets has hit the social life of people hard. It is gradually diluting the care and affection between human beings who earlier visited each other's homes, caught up with friends and organised family and village get-togethers. Many children have even stopped playing on the streets and playgrounds because of the addiction which affects their healthy upbringing.

With an aim to revive the age-old traditions, residents of Vadgaon at Sangli in Athani, a small village on Karnataka-Maharashtra border, have decided to ban television and mobile phones in their village from 7 pm to 9 pm everyday.

Speaking to TNE, Vijay Mo-



SOUNADIP SINHA

hite, President of Vadgaon Gram Panchayat (GP) said that during the Covid pandemic, parents were forced to provide smartphones to their children to avail online education. The home-schooling has now made students addicted to gadgets. As a result, many students now misuse their smartphones without the knowledge of their

parents, he said.

The gadget and TV addiction forced the Vadgaon Gram Panchayat to pass a resolution, as per which a loudspeaker has been installed on top of a temple in the village, which sounds a siren twice, at 7 pm and at 9 pm respectively.

When the siren goes at 7 pm, villagers switch off their TV sets and smartphones and step out of their homes to interact with each other, said Mohite.

Now members of several Gram Panchayats from Karnataka and Maharashtra are visiting Vadgaon to see the public response to the initiative.

Sunil Cholekar, office superintendent of a private college in Belagavi said, "Villagers of Vadgaon have taken a very wise decision. It is the need of the hour. Hope other villages and cities replicate it too."

Poaching plan of doctor, two TN residents foiled

Bengaluru: Alert Karnataka forest department officials stopped a group from Tamil Nadu, including an MBBS doctor, from poaching. The three have been arrested on charges of trespassing and poaching inside Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary in Chamarajanagar. The trio were seen roaming barefoot with weapons and torches, in a CCTV footage. P5

Siddu to BJP: Don't politicise Mesta death

Bengaluru: After the CBI filed a 'B-report', mentioning that Pareshe Mesta's death was accidental, which contrasts BJP's claim that he was a victim of a communal incident, former CM Siddaramaiah attacked the BJP, saying, "Don't do politics over anyone's death." It's high time the ruling party stopped playing politics over dead bodies, he said. P6

Brothers beat dog for attacking their pet

Bengaluru: In a horrific incident, three brothers beat a dog with wooden logs in Bhatarahalli in KR Puram. The dog had bitten another dog which belongs to the accused. Furious over this, the brothers attacked the dog which was tied inside a compound. Activists have urged authorities to take stringent action against the brothers. P3

Maha emblem on K'taka bus tickets sparks row

RAGHOTTAM KOPPAR @Gadag

BUS passengers in Gadag were in for a shock when they noticed the emblem of Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation (MSRTC) on the tickets issued by North Western Karnataka Road Transport Corporation (NWKRTC).

Several passengers, travelling from Gadag to Dambal, Doni, Attikatti, and Mundargi

have shared screenshots of the tickets on social media, flagging NWKRTC's "love" for MSRTC emblem.

This was first noticed on a ticket by a passenger in a bus run between Doni and Gadag. The emblem carries 'Jai Maharashtra' slogan. Mutthu Biliyeli, a passenger, called some pro-Kannada organ-

isations at Puttaraj Bus Stand in Gadag town. After the bus reached Gadag, the passengers, along with activists staged a protest. They said it was a serious flaw on the part of the NWKRTC officials and demanded

action. F C Hiremath, Divisional Controller, Gadag, said, "Ticket

rolls were printed in Visakhapatnam and were distributed from there to Karnataka and Maharashtra. This may have happened due to some confusion. We have received 200 roll boxes and some rolls were given to the bus conductors in Gadag and Ron depots. We have directed all taluk-level officials to return such rolls. Strict action will be taken after an inquiry."